AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 29 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- As illustrated in Figure 3, the pad 180 may be comprised of energy dissipating conformable media 182, such as polyborosiloxane, encapsulated in a non-porous flexible sheath 184, such as PVC or polyurethane having a thickness of approximately 12 gauge. The encapsulated media is held in place against the glove 100 by a section of material 185, such as leather or synthetic leather, placed over the media 182 and encapsulating layer 184 and secured to the glove ~~10e~~100. This fabrication process is well known to those skilled in glove making. The layer 184 may, however, be vacuum formed. --

Please replace paragraph 33 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- In the alternative, as illustrated in Figure ~~4,~~ 6, the back padding 190 may be comprised of a plurality of discrete strips 192a-e, each containing an energy-dissipating conformable media. As illustrated in Figure 7, each strip may be comprised of the energy dissipating conformable media 195 encapsulated in a plastic sheath 197a-e secured to the glove 100, either on top of the existing glove material or in place of the existing glove material. The energy dissipating conformable media may be, for example, polyborosiloxane, while the plastic sheath 197a-e may be a flexible layer of PVC or polyurethane having a thickness of approximately 12 gauge. The plastic sheath 197a-e may be mounted upon a flexible substrate 199 which would be secured to the glove 100. In the event the back padding 190 replaces the existing glove material, then it would be necessary to secure the back padding 190 to the material through such means as sewing or another positive attachment mechanism known to those skilled in the art of glove manufacturing. The strips 192a-e may be vacuum formed to provide a plurality of strips having a common substrate for the back padding 190. In such a fashion, the back padding 190 may be secured directly to the outside of a glove or may be secured to cover an opening in the back of the glove intended to receive the padding. --

Please replace paragraph 38 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Returning to Figure 6, the glove 100 has a central axis 198 and the plurality of strips 192a-e are parallel to one and are aligned with the central axis ~~197~~198. By providing discrete strips 192a-e aligned with the central axis 198, maximum flexibility is afforded to the wearer's hand. As an example, when a hand is laid flat upon a table, the proximal knuckles 38,

48, 58, 68 (Figure 1) of the fingers 30, 40, 50, 60 align along the planar surface of the table. However, when the hand is formed into the shape of a fist, the proximal knuckles of the fingers now form an arch about a central axis which aligns with the central axis 198 of the glove. As a result, by aligning the plurality of strips 192a-e with the central axis 198, maximum flexibility is afforded to the hand of the wearer when grasping a bat. On the other hand, since the metacarpal bones move relative to one another to form the arch but do not themselves bend then with the strips 192a-e generally aligned with the metacarpal bones the strips do not need to flex in any other direction. To the extent, however, that each strip contains an energy-dissipating conformable media that itself is relatively flexible, it is possible to position the strips in an orientation different from that illustrated in Figure 6. --